

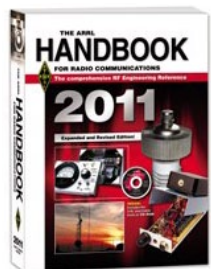
What's NEW

Tell them you saw it in *Monitoring Times*

Larry Van Horn, New Products Editor

The ARRL Handbook for Radio Communications

This is a book that most radio amateurs look forward to every year because its many uses in the radio shack are legendary. For more than eight decades, *The ARRL Handbook for Radio Communications* has empowered radio amateurs and professionals alike with its classic do-it-yourself approach, earning a position



on workbenches and operating desks as well as in technical libraries and institutions.

The *ARRL Handbook* is part reference library and part applied theory, filled with practical treatments of basic electronic fundamentals, RF design, digital and software radio technology, and antenna construction. It strikes the perfect balance between presentation of time-tested material, coverage of the ever-expanding scope of amateur radio, and cutting-edge, experimental technology.

The new 2011 *Handbook* has been significantly enhanced, featuring new projects and the most up-to-date information available anywhere for the electronic enthusiast. New topics in this eighty-eighth edition include:

- Schematic capture and printed circuit (PC) board layout
- Amplifier tuning and maintenance, using surplus amp parts
- Restoring vintage equipment
- Remote station design

New project material in this edition includes:

- Microprocessor-based SWR Monitor-Meter by Larry Coyle, K1QW
- LTSpice simulation files for basic electronic circuits
- Selecting the right battery for mobile operation

This edition also has content that has been expanded from previous editions including:

- New from Dr. Ulrich Rhode, N1UL: Oscillator and mixer circuit designs, HF mixer testing, VHF down-converter front end design, and Radio Frequency circuit simulation.
- Fifty percent more content on RF Interference, including digital TV, power line noise, and automotive RFI.
- Transmitting choke material consolidated for easy reference.

There is also a CD-ROM at the back of the book that includes all of the fully searchable text and illustrations in the printed book, as well as companion software, PC board templates and other support files. In order to use this CD-ROM you will have to have Windows XP, Windows Vista or Windows 7, or any of the Macintosh operating systems, using Adobe Acrobat Reader software. The Acrobat Reader is a free download at www.adobe.com and the

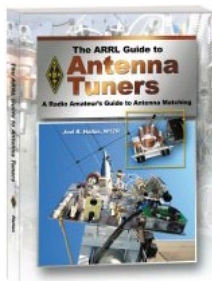
PDF files on this CD-ROM are Linux readable.

This 1,416 page book is available in hardcover and soft cover editions and weighs in at over 6-1/2 pounds. The price for both the hardcover (a limited time only) and soft cover books is \$49.95 plus shipping and handling.

The ARRL Guide to Antenna Tuners

In the amateur radio world, antenna tuners are devices that are often misunderstood. While not every station requires an antenna tuner to transmit radio signals, often an incompatibility between the transmitter and the antenna system results in poor performance. An antenna tuner between them is often the way to obtain efficient operation.

For the first time ever, Joel R. Hallas, W1ZR, has written a new book that removes



the mystery and mystic surrounding antenna tuners in the radio shack. *The ARRL Guide to Antenna Tuners* discusses the details of the different configurations and requirements of antenna tuners. It explores the design, construction and applications of the different types. In this book you will learn what type of tuner is needed in your station and where to install it for maximum improvement.

This guide will give you a better understanding of your antenna system and how it can be improved through the selection and use of the appropriate antenna tuner. Some of the subjects you will read about in this new ARRL book include:

- So just what is an antenna tuner and why might I need one?
- A look at a typical configuration and how to tune an antenna tuner.
- Information on balanced, internal and external tuners.
- Transmission line choices for low loss and balanced versus unbalanced lines.
- What's a balun, an unun, and a choke?
- Antennas that work well with tuners.
- A survey of available commercial tuners and material on rolling your own tuner.

The ARRL Guide to Antenna Tuners is a

160 page soft cover book and sells for \$22.95 plus shipping and handling.

You can order both the ARRL books mentioned in this column via snail mail to 225 Main Street, Newington, CT 06111-1494 or visit their website at www.arrl.org.

Microham Digikeyer™ II Digital Mode Interface

Microham has released a new digital interface unit – the Digikeyer™ II. This new interface is a powerful all-in-one USB interface used for amateur radio digital mode operation including modes such as RTTY, PSK31, MFSK, Olivia, WSJT, APRS, PACKET, and many others.

This new DigiKeyer II replaces several different external level converters such as the CT-62, IF-232, FIF-232, or CT-17 interface units. It combines the proven performance of the original DigiKeyer; a high performance USB audio class compliant sound system; the control and interfacing of microKEYER II; the K1EL WinKey keyer; independent PTT outputs for both low noise amplifier and power amplifier control; and MicroHAM's unique detector/driver for fldigi's p-FSK and q-CW modes.

The DigiKeyer II includes a rig control interface for all supported radios (Elecraft, Icom, JRC, Kenwood, Ten-Tec, and Yaesu), an internal stereo sound chip using standard Windows sound drivers, and a K1EL WinKey CW Keyer.

The DigiKeyer package contains the interface, a CDROM with drivers, control software and manual, USB A-B cable 2-meters (6.5 feet) long, and one radio cable (specify your radio when ordering), and it sells for \$339. You can get more information at www.microham-usa.com.

Books and equipment for announcement or review should be sent to What's New, c/o Monitoring Times, 7540 Highway 64 West, Brasstown, NC 28902. Press releases may be faxed to 828-837-2216 or emailed to Larry Van Horn, larryvanhorn@monitoringtimes.com.

When ordering or inquiring about the products mentioned in this column, be sure to tell them that you saw it in the pages of *Monitoring Times* magazine.

